



Docket No.: 239410US0

IPW

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COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

RE: Application Serial No.: 10/601,634

Applicants: Mikhail Markovich CUSYATINER, et al.

Filing Date: June 24, 2003

For: METHOD FOR PRODUCING L-LEUCINE

Group Art Unit: 1652

Examiner: Ramirez, D.M.

SIR:

Attached hereto for filing are the following papers:

Response to Restriction Requirement

Our check in the amount of **\$0.00** is attached covering any required fees. In the event any variance exists between the amount enclosed and the Patent Office charges for filing the above-noted documents, including any fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for any necessary Extension of Time to make the filing of the attached documents timely, please charge or credit the difference to our Deposit Account No. 15-0030. Further, if these papers are not considered timely filed, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for the necessary extension of time. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

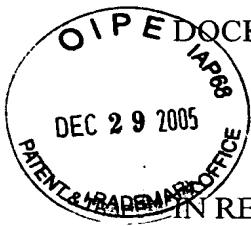
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DOCKET NO.: 239410US0
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

Mikhail Markovich CUSYATINER, et al. : GROUP ART UNIT: 1652

SERIAL NO.: 10/601,634 :

FILED: JUNE 24, 2003 : EXAMINER: RAMIREZ, D. M.

FOR: METHOD FOR PRODUCING L-LEUCINE

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450

SIR:

Responsive to the Restriction Requirement dated November 29, 2005, Applicants elect, with traverse, Group I, Claims 1-5, for further prosecution.

REMARKS

The Office has required restriction in the present application as follows:

Group I: Claims 1-5, drawn to a transformed bacterium which produces L-valine, L-isoleucine, and L-homoleucine in an amount less than 1% of that of L-leucine; and

Group II: Claims 6-7, drawn to a method to produce L-leucine.

Applicants elect, with traverse, Group I, Claims 1-5, for further prosecution.

Applicants traverse the Restriction Requirement on the grounds that the claims of Group II depend directly from the claims of Group I. As such, it is improper to separate these claims as they are not independent and distinct.